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BBC OFFICIAL: BBC WILL NOT BROADCAST UN PROPAGANDA

LD231404Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1613 GMT 19 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The controversy concerning the part the BBC will play in beaming anti-South African programs to Africa remains confused. The SABC [South Africa Broadcasting Corporation] asked the head of the external service of the BBC, Mr Gerald Mansell, for his comments. [begin recording]

[Mansell] These reports are not in any way correct. If by cooperating is meant that we will try and place time on the air for program material prepared by the United Nations which is of a propaganda nature, then those reports are absolutely incorrect. What we discussed were ways in which the cooperation between the United Nations Radio and the BBC, which has been going on for a quarter of a century or more, could be strengthened.

[Question] So, is it correct to assume that the BBC will stick to its present format of programs and will not change it to the benefit of the United Nations?

[Answer] There is no question of changing format, of introducing new programs as a result of this initiative by the United Nations. Our function in relation to all the very major issues that are contemporary issues of the world is to, first of all of course, to report them accurately, to background them accurately and honestly, and to reflect the various expressions of public feeling in this country about those issues. We do this in regard to developments in southern Africa, and particularly in regard to apartheid, in the same way as we do it in regard to human rights, wherever they might be, wherever the issue may arise--whether it's in the Soviet Union, in Chile or wherever. There is no--so far as we're concerned--no singling out of South Africa as being a particularly acute issue. Everybody knows that it is an acute issue. There are many other acute issues in the world apart from that one. [end recording]

Mr Mansell insisted that there was no question of the BBC broadcasting propaganda material. The United Nations network was welcome to feed its material, said Mr Mansell, and it would be considered for broadcasts in the normal way.

Tanzanian Press Condemns BBC

PA221850Y Paris AFP in French 1804 GMT 22 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 22 Jan (AFP)--The official Tanzanian press today condemned the BBC for refusing to air the UN appeals intended for those opposed to the South African apartheid regime.

Today's editorial in the official newspaper SUNDAY NEWS explains that the BBC refusal is principally motivated by the imminent victory of the people in South Africa but that, when the end to "oppression" comes, it will be a blow to imperialism in general and British imperialism in particular.

Those in charge of the BBC, the SUNDAY NEWS continues, cited the principle of "objectivity" as the basis for their refusal to broadcast the UN appeals. The SUNDAY NEWS adds, however, that the BBC never gets tired of calling freedom fighters "terrorists" and of "showering the tyrants such as Ian Smith with respectability."

ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ABABA: PROVINCE CLEARED OF 'INVADERS'

LD231954Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Regular and militia forces deployed in Jem Jem Province of Sidamo Region have cleared the area of the Somali invading forces. A government spokesman in the province said that peace and stability had now been completely restored in the area. The spokesman added that the regular and militia forces were now engaged in civic service activities.

PAPERS STRESS NEED FOR SOMALI TROOP WITHDRAWAL

LD231622Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Editorial review]

[Text] ADDIS ZEMEN and the ETHIOPIAN HERALD both devoted their yesterday's editorials to unconditional withdrawal of the invading Mogadiscio forces from eastern Ethiopia. Since both editorials reflect the same opinion, we take that of the HERALD.

The ETHIOPIAN HERALD in an editorial entitled "No Talks Before Complete Withdrawal," comments as follows:

The chorus of self-centered proposals voiced by reactionary and imperialist quarters advocating a negotiated settlement of the war being fought between the invading troops of the reactionary Mogadiscio clique and the defending forces of Ethiopia, makes the exercise look a travestry of peace. The (?mob) call is absurd, devoid of responsibility, while it is absolutely biased and a one-sided approach to the problem.

As regards the precise situation in the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia is the victim of an unwarranted war of aggression launched against her by the expansionist ruling clique in Mogadiscio. Hence, if peace and stability is to be restored in the Horn of Africa, then Ethiopia's legitimate and firm demand for complete withdrawal of all troops of the renegade Siad Barre regime from its territory should be accepted as the only genuine solution to the armed conflect now raging in this part of the continent.

The speculative views forwarded by circles whose attitude to the Ethiopian masses and their revolution are publicly hostile are today unacceptable to Ethiopia, which takes the current effort to concoct a pretext to assist Mogadiscio as an encroachment upon her legitimate interests. Let all foes and friends alike know that Ethiopian shall never settle for anything short of the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the invading forces of the reactionary Mogadiscio regime from its sacred land.

Washington and its NATO allies are still reluctant, although they are fully aware of the fact, to admit that regular armies of the expansionist Mogadiscio regime have invaded Ethiopian territory in flagrant violation of the chartered principles of the OAU and the UN. The meddling at this juncture by Washington and its imperialist allies will not alter Ethiopia's determination to defend its unity, territorial integrity and its sovereignty and the gains of the on-going popular revolution.

The nonsensical allegation (?planned) by the Mogadiscio regime, and now parroted by Washington too, that Soviet and Cuban troops are fighting alongside Ethiopian forces in the war against the invading armies of Mogadiscio is a pure fabrication. Imperialists and their allies should stop interfering in the matter with the view to (?stoking) the flames of war in this part of the world.

The paper concludes: Rallying under the motto "Revolutionary Motherland or Death," and with right on their side, the oppressed Ethiopian masses shall emerge victorious in the end by completely crushing the reactionary war directed against their revolution and the territorial sovereignty of their motherland.

INA: ERITREAN FRONTS TO MEET IN KHARTOUM

JN231355Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 23 Jan 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 23 January--A joint meeting between the Revolutionary Council of the Eritrean Liberation Front of Eritrea will be held here during the second week of February.

It was stated here today that the meeting will discuss the procedures to unify the Eritrean factions in accordance with the agreement they reached in Khartoum during December 1977.

The two sides agreed on the basic principles necessary to achieve unity by means of one organization, one higher command and joint committees in the social, economic, information and military fields.

ETHIOPIAN, PDRY JOURNALISTS SIGN AGREEMENT

LD201538Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 20 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] A 2-year agreement of cooperation and solidarity between the mass media of Ethiopia and the PDRY was signed yesterday by the journalists associations of the two countries. The agreement was signed by Mr Salim Muhammad Bajamir, secretary general of the PDRY journalists organization, and Ato Berhanu Zerihum, president of the Ethiopian journalists association.

The accord calls for exchange of publications, documents, professional and organizational experiences as well as for making available information on developments in Ethiopia and the PDRY and the region as a whole. It notes that such exchange of professional experiences, knowhow and actual publication materials would help expand the horizon of national and international outlook of journalists of the two countries.

The agreement calls on all progressive forces to join hands in the fight against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, fascism, Zionism and all forms of reaction both at national and international levels in order to strengthen world peace and security.

DEPUTY MINISTER MAKES PRIVATE VISIT TO ROME

AU230920Y Rome ANSA in English 0830 GMT 23 Jan 78 AU

[Text] (ANSA)--Rome, January 23--The deputy minister and permanent secretary for Ethiopia's foreign affairs, Dawit Wolde Georgis [as received] is in Rome on a private visit. He arrived here Saturday evening from London and announced that he would be holding a press conference today in the home of the Ethiopian ambassador to Rome.

SOMALIA

MOGADISCIO REPORTS ETHIOPIAN ATTACK ON HARAR

LD231016Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD

[Text] A report from the Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] says that yesterday, 22 January, at 1500 the Abyssinian colonial forces and their allies launched a massive ground and air attack on the towns of Babile, Fayambiro and Harar. The freedom fighters, however, managed to repulse the enemy. The report adds that the freedom fighters inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy.

The report says that the towns of Babile and Fayambiro have been liberated and that fighting is going on in Harar, despite the enemy's use of modern sophisticated weapons and his planes which are bombing civilian targets and killing many innocent people. The WSLF, the report adds, is absolutely confident of liberating the rest of its country.

SIAD BARRE VISITS ARABIAN PENINSULA COUNTRIES

For reportage on Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre's official visits to the Yemen Arab Republic and Saudi Arabia, see the 20 January and subsequent issues of the Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT.

SIAD BARRE GIVES INTERVIEW ON HORN OF AFRICA

LD231732Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre has expressed concern and astonishment at the hesitant attitude of the Western countries toward developments in the Horn of Africa. He said that the Western countries' failure to make a decision on the matter will encourage the USSR and its allies to persist with their interference and will enable them to implement their schemes, which will place the entire world face-to-face with a fait accompli. He called for immediate action to halt open interference by the USSR and its allies and to support the legitimate struggle of the liberation movements for self-determination, if it is desired to safeguard peace in the region.

President Siad Barre was speaking in an interview with the representatives of the SAUDI NEWS AGENCY and the Riyadh radio and television services. He spoke of the gravity of the current situation in the Horn of Africa and its implications.

He began his statement by saying that over the past few months the struggle between the true liberation forces of Western Somalia and the Eritrean liberation forces, and the Ethiopian imperialist forces, has turned from flagrant interference by the USSR and its allies into a crisis with international dimensions.

He added that huge surplus quantities of sophisticated Soviet weapons are still pouring in--in quantities beyond the needs of Ethiopia--and foreign forces are still arriving in the area. All these are intended to suppress the legitimate struggle of the liberation movements in Eritrea and western Somalia for independence, and then to launch an attack on Somalia to pave the way for the domination of the strategic areas of the Red Sea and the mouth of the Indian Ocean.

The Somali president affirmed that this open communist plan poses a major threat not only to the countries of the area but also to all countries with interests in the area. In addition, it threatens world peace.

He called on the countries of the West in particular and the countries of the world in general before it is too late to rush to take decisive measures and steps to face this serious communist scheme and help Somalia with its sound stand so that peace talks can be held between the two sides. He reiterated Somalia's determination under all circumstances to support the struggle of the legitimate liberation movements for independence at the time when it is working hard to secure genuine peace initiatives.

President Siad Barre also spoke of the treachery of the communist information plan in the international field. This plan aims at denying the existence of liberation movements in western Somalia and Eritrea and depicting the issue as a mere border dispute between Somalia and Ethiopia, harping at the same time on the question of the territorial integrity of Ethiopia.

He expressed his satisfaction with the fact that the majority of the African countries have been aware of the Soviet and Ethiopian propaganda in regard to this just cause. He said that in fact the problem is a purely imperialist one which is being misrepresented by Ethiopia--an imperialist state with a long history of expansion. He added that the question of territorial integrity cannot be accepted, except with the exercise of the right of self-determination. As to the Horn of Africa [words indistinct] Ethiopian imperialist rule.

President Siad Barre spoke of a new modern weapon which Ethiopia has begun to use lately --the misuse of the OAU and its secretariat and headquarters in Addis Ababa. He cited as a proof the statement disseminated by the Ethiopian information media recently in which it reported the OAU secretariat's denunciation of Iran because it said it would not stand idle if Somalia were attacked.

He also referred to the plan of the Soviets and their communist allies who utilize their pens to distort the picture of Ethiopia in Africa, turning it from an imperialist state into an anti-imperialist state that loves freedom. He said: We present to world public opinion these painful and serious conditions of the people inside Ethiopia itself as proof of the falsehood of these allegations. Thousands of Ethiopian civilians are falling victims of daily massacres committed by the current Ethiopian regime. The Ethiopian information media are trying to conceal all that.

He called on the world in general and the African countries in particular to expose the true nature of open communist interference in the area and of the ruling Ethiopian regime. He also appealed to all to press Ethiopia and its allies to accept the principle of self-determination for the peoples living under Ethiopian occupation through a plebiscite to be held under international supervision. He said that despite the false allegations disseminated and propagated by the USSR and Ethiopia to the effect that Somalia has violated Ethiopia's territorial integrity, Somalia is still a victim of military aggression by the Soviets and the Ethiopians. He added that Soviet and Ethiopian airmen continue to strafe inhabited areas in Somalia and that the victims of these raids are innocent civilians, including sick people in the hospitals. Despite all that, he said, the Somali Government is ready to sit with the Ethiopian Government to discuss the problems resulting from this aggression in addition to other matters of relations between the two countries.

He affirmed that the purpose of these sincere practical proposals is to find a durable political solution for the crisis in the Horn of Africa and to avoid all the likely threats to international peace.

UGANDA

SOVIET UNION TO CARRY OUT MINERAL PROSPECTING

LD231550Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Uganda and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement for economic and technical cooperation in the field of geological prospecting in Uganda. The agreement was signed at the Ministry of Lands and Water Resources in Kampala between the minister of foreign affairs, also holding the portfolios of information and broadcasting and land and water resources, Col Juma Oris, and Soviet ambassador to Uganda, Mr Yevgeniy Musiyko. The agreement was the first of its kind to be signed by both countries.

Speaking before signing the agreement, Colonel Oris emphasized the need to start on the work immediately. He thanked the Soviet ambassador for the excellent work he is doing in Uganda, adding that Mr Musiyko was the first ambassador to have taken the initiative to establish cooperation in this particular field. He informed the ambassador that Uganda is both an agricultural and industrial country. Therefore, the minister said, there is need for technical assistance from friendly countries like the Soviet Union. He informed the Soviet ambassador that Uganda had over 30 different types of minerals and chances to explore them are open. He said the treaty will help to further strengthen friendly relations between Uganda and the Soviet Union.

In reply, the Soviet ambassador informed the minister that the agreement was the first step in strengthening cooperation in the geological field. The ambassador said the agreement would go a long way in showing the good relations which exist between the two nations. He said the Soviet Union was prepared to start to work as soon as possible. Mr. Musiyko expressed his gratitude to the life president and Colonel Oris for the part they have played in strengthening Soviet-Ugandan relations. [passage indistinct]

FOREIGN MINISTER ORIS RECEIVES KENYAN OFFICIAL

LD231832Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Col Juma Oris, has received the visiting Kenyan assistant minister of foreign affairs, Mr Peter Kenyatta. The assistant minister, who was accompanied by the ambassador of the Arab League in Nairobi, is in Uganda at the invitation of the Uganda-Arab Friendship Society. Col Juma Oris was very happy to meet Mr Peter Kenyatta and his delegation, and he thanked them for their brotherly visit to Uganda.

CHAD

'GUERRILLA LEADER' INTERVIEWED BY AFP IN LAGOS

PA221858Y Paris AFP in English 1720 GMT 22 Jan 78 PA

[By Edward Poulney]

[Text] Lagos, Jan 22 (AFP)--Anti-government troops have forced American technicians to abandon a search for oil in western Chad, a man claiming to be a guerrilla leader told AFP here. The man, who identified himself as Abojakar Mahamt Abdraman, chairman of the FROLINAT western forces command council, provided photographs which he said were of casualties of recent operations in western Chad.

Mr Abdraman, who was with two other men, said that this was the first time that FOLINAT's [word indistinct] western army had contacted the foreign press since it began operations in 1976.

Listing the results of the third army's most recent actions, Mr Abdraman said that 23 Chad customs officers were killed for the [words indistinct] one guerrilla in an attack on a village by the Niger (?border) on Dec. 10. Technicians from the American oil group CONACO were forced to abandon their camp during a FROLINAT attack on Dec. 8, he said. He claimed that the third army now controlled part of Chad's borders with Cameroon, Niger [words indistinct] where the frontier cut through Lake Chad.

Mr Abdraman, who claimed his men had established their own administration over (?part) of the Kanem region, said that FROLINAT had lifted a government ban on cattle exports.

The third army had the same basic objective--the liberation of the whole country--as the two other FROLINAT armies, although the movemert grouped leaders of different political tendencies, he said.

The guerrilla leader confirmed that Libyan forces occupied parts of northern Chad, where the second FROLINAT army was operating, but said that they avoided confrontation that was the second army's affair, and for the time being the number one priority was to overthrow the government. The military administration was even worse than (former President Ngarte) Tombalbaye, he said. Mr Abdraman said that the first army had a liaison office in Algiers, the second army was in Tripoli, but the third army was not yet represented outside Chad. Lagos was the easiest foreign capital to reach, but he did not want problems with the Nigerian Government, he said.

Mr Abdraman implicitly recognised that the Nigerian Government was unlikely to provide any comfort for his movement, and added that he did not intend to attempt to contact the Nigerian authorities.

Nigeria's Africa-first foreign policy would preclude any support for anti-government movements [words indistinct] independent African states. Moreover, the bitter civil war experience of the country's military leaders makes it most unlikely that they would even listen to liberation arguments from nationals of Organization of African Unity member states.

Even in the event [words indistinct] policy-makers privately disapproving the internal policies of any African government, it seems probable that the hardest line they would take would be to avoid public support for such administrations.

Non-Nigerian Africans in Lagos say that even [word indistinct] recommended individual refugee status to the appropriate United Nations bodies is treated as a highly sensitive matter.

NIGER

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON AL-QADHDHAFI'S VISIT

Kountche Addresses Banquet

LD231640Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD

[Excerpts] Niger President Seyni Kountche spoke last night at a banquet he gave in honor of brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Regarding the situation in the Arab area and the world, the president said:

The problems of the Arab area which stem from Israel's arrogance--Israel that has seized Arab territory and trampled on the rights of the Palestinian people--as well as the problems of South Africa and Zimbabwe, the problem of the Western Sahara and all of the issues affecting the struggle of our newly independent countries for the creation of a new international economic order, all these demand coordination from us and joint resolve.

I am confident of the ability of the Jamahiriyah and Niger to work for further progress on the road of their fraternal cooperation. I am confident of the ability of our two peoples to mobilize themselves in the search for a better future and to coordinate their solidarity to face world problems.

Cooperation Talks Held

LD241108Y Tripoli JANA in English 0930 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Niamey, Niger, January 24, JANA--Official talks were held here yesterday between the delegations of the Jamahiriyah and Niger to discuss strengthening of bilateral relations and increasing mutual cooperation in various fields.

An official source of the Foreign Secretariat said agreement was reached on formation of two technical committees, one for preparing the joint communique and another for studying economic, technical and cultural cooperation between the two countries. The committees will begin their work here today.

The Jamahiriyah delegation was led by Secretary of Liaison Taha ash-Sharif ibn 'Amir, while the foreign minister of Niger led his side.

The secretary of foreign affairs, Dr 'Ali at-Turayki, Agriculture Secretary Muhammad 'Ali at-Tabu and high officials of the foreign secretariat and agricultural experts comprised the Jamahiriyah delegation.

The Niger delegation included the minister of state for rural affairs, the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, the director general of the National Bank of Niger, the director of the Niger University, the director of foreign relations and the Niger ambassador to the Jamahiriyah.

The talks were opened with an inaugural address by the head of the Niger delegation who stressed the importance of cooperation between the two countries in the light of the speeches of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Kountche at a state dinner Sunday night.

The Niger foreign minister reviewed the agenda of the talks which included establishment of a Libyan-Niger joint bank for foreign trade and development, setting up of a joint Libyan-Niger company besides several other development projects including another Islamic centre.

In his reply, the head of the Jamahiriyah delegation, Taha ash-Sharif ibn 'Amir, thanked the Niger foreign minister and said the relations between the two countries had crossed the stage of mere diplomatic exchange of words.

Taha ash-Sharif ibn 'Amir said the two countries will now begin discussions on matters of cooperation in the light of the directions of the two leaders, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Kountche.

He said the Jamahiriyah will strive to increase joint cooperation in the interest of the two brotherly people who are neighbours and have deep and strong links binding them together.

He referred to the several meetings between Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Kountche in Colombo (where both attended the nonaligned summit conference) in Tripoli and Niamey as well as meetings between foreign ministers of the two countries, and said this proves, if proof is needed, that the two countries have remained in consultations and constantly exchanging views on matters of mutual interest.

Similarly he said contacts between ministers and secretaries of industries, communications and agriculture had helped in promotion of cooperation and bilateral relations.

He specially referred to the opening of a direct air link between Tripoli and Niamey by the Libyan Arab Airlines as an example of the growing cooperation.

ANGOLA

NETO RECEIVES HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA

LD232122Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Summary] This morning Comrade Neto received Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja. Paulo Jorge and members of the secretariat of the MPLA Central Committee were present. The Hungarian Foreign Minister was later received by Lopo do Nascimento. Frigyes Puja is expected to leave tomorrow for Maputo.

SOVIET MARITIME FLEET MINISTER ARRIVES IN LUANDA

LD231612Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] Comrade Guzhenko, Soviet minister for the maritime fleet, accompanied by a delegation of officials from his ministry, arrived in Luanda this morning. The Soviet minister was met at Luanda International Airport by Comrades Manuel Pacavira, member of the Central Committee and minister of agriculture, and Fernando Muteka, the minister of transport.

While in Angola Comrade Guzhenko will visit the cities of Mocamedes and Benguela as well as Luanda.

The Soviet minister for the maritime fleet is a member of the CPSU Central Committee and has dedicated his entire life to maritime transport. In 1977 he led an expedition to the North Pole on the atomic icebreaker Arktika, the success of which led him to be awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labor.

Leaves for Benguela

LD241158Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0900 GMT 24 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] Timofey Borisovich Guzhenko, the Soviet minister for the maritime fleet who arrived in Luanda yesterday on an official visit to Angola, left for Benguela this morning accompanied by Angolan Transport Minister Fernando Muteka and other ministry staff. After Benguela the Soviet guest will visit Mocamedes.

VATICAN: BISHOPS PROTEST VIOLATIONS OF FREEDOM

LD211700Y Vatican City in English to Europe 1445 GMT 21 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The bishops of Angola have protested the frequent and lamentable violations of religious freedom in the People's Republic of Angola. In a letter read in all churches recently, the Angolan bishops said that Catholics, half the population, suffered discrimination for their beliefs and often lose custody of their children. They protested systematic propaganda in favor of atheism and the silencing of the Catholic station, Radio Ecclesia.

Angola gained independence from Portugal in November, 1975, after years of bloody struggle. The letter by the bishops of Angola's 12 dioceses says that steps had not yet been taken to implement sections of the new constitution guaranteeing freedom of religion.

The church has [seen] such frequent and lamentable violations of religion, which are almost always unpunished and given specious justification. The Christian community witnesses with sorrow the systematic propaganda in favor of atheism, discrimination against the faithful because of their religious beliefs and practice and sacrilegious profanation of the churches and sacred objects, said the bishops.

They also pledged that they did not oppose the socialist system open to human and Christian values, but they added that not all political systems are equal for a Christian. Catholics note with deep preoccupation the directive setting up a single form of education for the young without taking into account the inalienable and prior rights of the parents, they wrote.

Freedom of speech has practically disappeared on the public level. Arbitrary arrests and prolonged imprisonment have taken place on unfounded suspicion without proper trial as guaranteed in the constitution, and institutions of welfare and utility have been occupied and damaged. In making their criticisms the bishops reaffirmed their determination to work with the civil authorities for the spiritual and material good of their people.

BOTSWANA

NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN GABORONE

PA231403Y Paris AFP in English 1227 GMT 23 Jan 78 PA

[Excerpt] Gaborone, Jan 23 (AFP)--The Soviet Union's first resident ambassador in Botswana, Mikhail Petrov, arrived here over the weekend to present his credentials to president Sir Seretse Khama.

Mr Petrov said he hoped to develop relations for the benefit of our countries in the interest of the anti-imperialist and anti-colonial struggle and for the sake of peace and progress in the whole world.

Until now the Soviet ambassador accredited to Gaborone was based in Lusaka, Zambia. An embassy was built here last year after the resident envoy was named.

Botswana has traditionally been close to the West but with the growth of the Rhodesian conflict has turned increasingly towards the Socialist camp.

Moscow has reportedly offered to supply arms to Botswana, but it is not known if there have been any deliveries.

SALISBURY: USSR CONSIDERS EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION

LD241020Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The Soviet Afro-solidarity committee [as heard] has offered Botswana five scholarships and is reported to be considering cooperation between Botswana and Russian educational institutions. The offer was made today at a news conference given in Gaborone by the leader of the Russian delegation, Mr Petrov. Asked whether the Kremlin has also offered to give military aid to terrorist movements in southern Africa, Mr Petrov replied: We are a very peaceful people. It is not convenient for us to discuss military matters.

RHODESIA

SMITH HOLDS FURTHER TALKS WITH NATIONALISTS

LD231022Y Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/CA

[Text] The Rhodesian prime minister held 90-minute talks this morning with African nationalist leaders at his official residence in Salisbury. No official statement was issued after the meeting and the only leader to comment as he left was the president of ZUPO [Zimbabwe United People's Organization] Senator Chief Chirau, who said "it went well."

Confers With Cabinet

PA241357Y Paris AFP in English 1350 GMT 24 Jan 78 PA

[Excerpts] Salisbury, Jan 24 (AFP)--Rhodesian Premier Ian Smith conferred today with his cabinet on the latest developments in the current internal settlement talks which are reported to be bogged down over the time-scale for white constitutional safeguards under majority rule.

They ran into difficulties and were adjourned last week when Mr Sithole demanded a five-year time limit on the white safeguards.

The other nationalist leaders and Mr Smith had agreed on a compromise 10-year limit after Mr Smith had originally asked for 15 years.

JOHANNESBURG REPORTS LATEST RHODESIAN CASUALTIES

LD232312Y Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Twenty-three more people have been killed in the terrorist war in Rhodesia. A military communique issued in Salisbury says a 19-year-old policeman and seven terrorists have been killed in the latest clashes. Seven black farmers were killed in a land mine explosion and three more blacks were murdered by the terrorists. A number of terrorist collaborators were also killed by the Rhodesian security forces.

SOUTH AFRICA

PRESS ASSOCIATION PROTESTS NEWSMEN'S ARREST

PA231419Y Paris AFP in English 1225 GMT 23 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 23 (AFP)--The South African Foreign Press Association today expressed deep concern over the harassment of its members following the detention for several hours yesterday of five newsmen in Soweto African township.

The association sent protest letters to the Information Ministry and police chief.

The association questioned the value of permits to visit Soweto which all the arrested newsmen were carrying at the time. It also asked what use were press cards supplied by the Information Ministry and signed by the police chief if journalists could be arrested without explanation.

Five newsmen--Pierre Haski of AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Larry Heinzerling and Mitchel Osborne of ASSOCIATED PRESS, Ettore Botta of UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL Television News, and John Roberts of the Voice of America--were detained at a rally organised by the anti-apartheid Soweto Action Committee, a black consciousness movement. The newsmen were freed after two hours detention and questioning. Two black photographers, arrested at the same time, were freed overnight.

JOHANNESBURG CITES RHODESIAN MINISTER'S WARNING

LD210748Y Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 21 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The Rhodesian foreign affairs minister, Mr Van der Byl, says terrorist organizations, acting as forerunners of Soviet imperialist aggression against Rhodesia, are going to make an all-out effort to disrupt the Downing House settlement talks.

In an interview in Salisbury, Mr Van der Byl gave a warning that all sorts of moves are taking place in different parts of the world in attempts to destroy present settlement talks. The most spectacular example of this was the scheduled British meeting in Malta with the Patriotic Front which would be designed to wreck the Downing House talks. Mr Van der Byl said both the British and American governments had lost the will to [word indistinct] Soviet aggression and expansion. They believed that the destruction of Rhodesia was a price they would not mind paying to appease the Russians.

TRANSKEI ASKS SOUTH AFRICANS TO LEAVE MINISTRY

PA211201Y Paris AFP in English 0429 GMT 21 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Umtata, Transkei, Jan 21 (AFP)--Transkei is going to ask South Africa to withdraw its officials assigned to the Transkeian Defense Ministry, Transkei Prime Minister Kaiser Matanzima announced yesterday.

Mr Matanzima said this decision was part of the ongoing process of having Transkeians replace all the South African advisors that Pretoria assigned to the Umtata government when the Bantustan was made independent in October 1976. The prime minister did not specify whether the South African instructors training the Transkei Army were to be affected by the decision.

Mr Matanzima said Transkeian officials would go on being trained abroad and that we would continue to ask for arms from South Africa, just like from any other country. However, South Africa is the only country in the world that has recognized Transkei as an independent state.

ZAMBIA

LUSAKA DENIES ATTACKING RHODESIAN BORDER TOWN

LD241030Y Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD

[Text] A government spokesman has categorically denied rebel Rhodesia's allegation that Zambia had attacked the Kariba township on the Rhodisian side yesterday. The spokesman added that the allegation was a total fabrication by the rebels aimed at justifying their intended unprovoked attacks on Zambia. This is a repetition of the previous (?evil lies) by the rebels which the world at large is now aware of, the spokesman said.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON PARTY, ECONOMIC ISSUES

LD231040Y Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Jan 78 LD/CA

[Text] President Kaunda today warned former members of the dissolved United Progressive Party [UPP] to conform to the needs of society or face the anger of the party. In a scathing attack on antiparty elements, Dr Kaunda said that although the former UPP leaders had been tolerated by the party for a long time, they do not seem to have changed even a little.

Issuing the warning at Luanshya's (?council) hall, where he addressed party leaders who complained against constant dark-corner meetings by former leaders of the UPP, Dr Kaunda said that former members of the UPP cannot do anything that will not reach his ears.

An angry Dr Kaunda warned that UNIP [United National Independence Party] has the power of demolishing opposition elements once and for all, and that as president he had the powers to restrict those who assisted former UPP members in organizing illegal secret meetings. The president said that despite the fact that leaders of the defunct UPP had been tolerated for a long time, the party is bound to react one day because people cannot allow themselves to be troubled forever. He said ex-UPP leaders had changed the issue of shortages of essential commodities into a springboard for launching attacks on the party and government. He said it was unfair to attack the party for all the country's ills, some of which come by [as heard] the country's sacrifices and support for the liberation struggle in southern Africa and the low price of copper on the (?London) metal exchange.

President Kaunda reiterated his July deadline for the economy of the country to pick up through self-sacrifice by all Zambians. He said people in schools, factories, mines, shops, farms and all other areas (?of production) must work extra hard so that we are able to produce more than we did last year. Dr Kaunda said it was only through hard work that the nation can hope to make the economic take-off a success and called for a national report to be submitted to him by June 30th on the progress that will have been made regarding the revamping of the economy.

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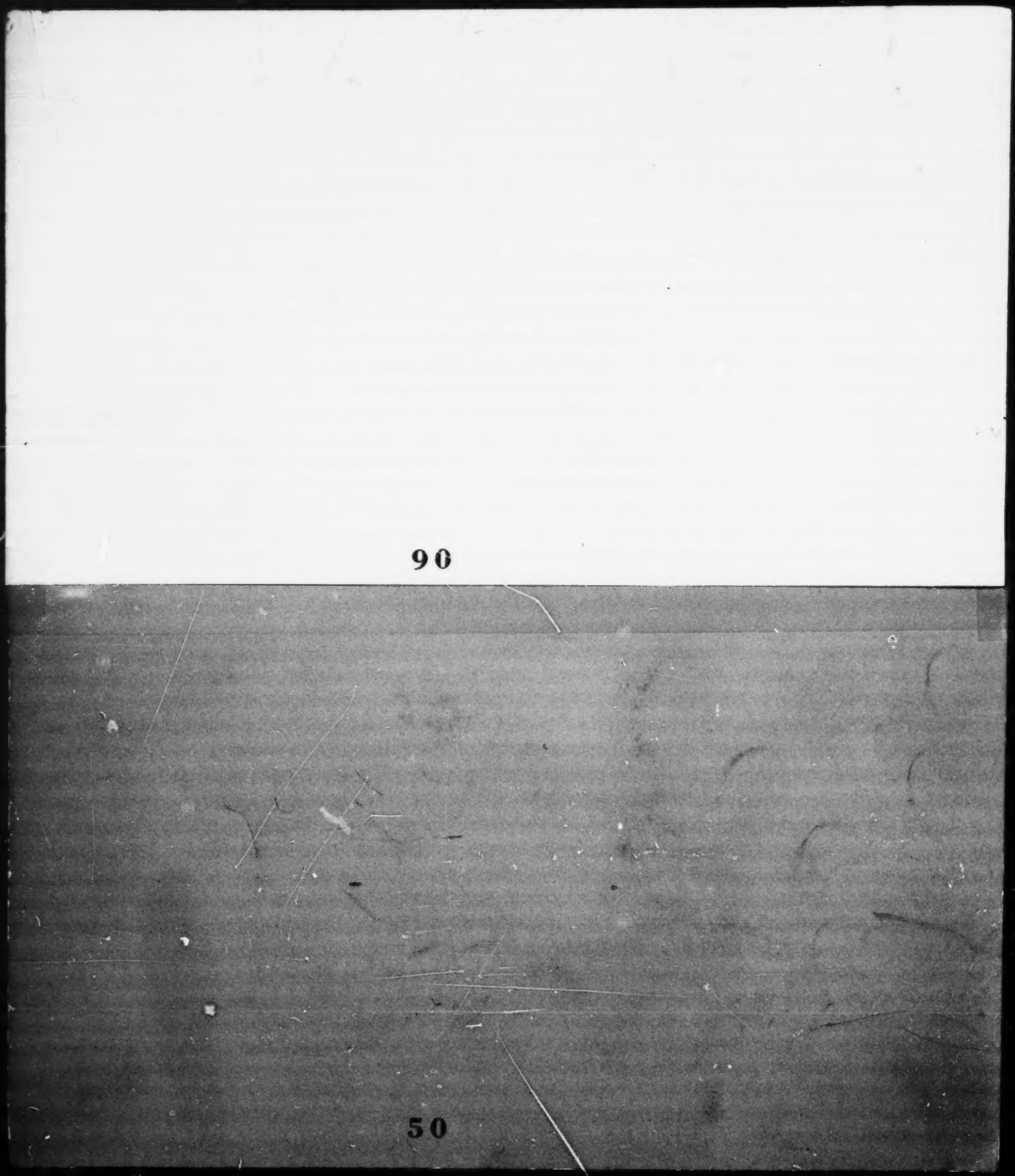
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